

EXCLUSIVE

Vatican Enters Fight To Avert Nuclear War

Major changes in the Vatican hierarchy, followed by Pope Paul's unprecedented audience with Hungarian Communist leader Kadar, have carried the Roman church into the thick of the fight to avert an early thermonuclear war. This development, culminating several decades of efforts in this direction by present Vatican Undersecretary of State, Monsignor Agostino Casaroli, means that the Catholic hierarchy, like Italy's Andreotti government before it, seeks an immediate dialogue with Eastern Europe and is on the verge of normalizing relations with the Soviet Union.

Pope Paul VI (Montini) is backing the policy shift, having been a supporter of the Casaroli faction in an increasingly open way since at least 1965.

Although it may surprise some, the Vatican, like any other major financial power, is subject to factional strife. Arrayed against the Montini-Casaroli leadership has been a group of schismatic "traditionalists" associated locally with Rome's overtly fascist "black nobility," and internationally with the Rockefeller family's Opus Dei and "Buckley connection." This faction is grouped around Monsignor Giovanni Bennelli, the principal in the U.S. National Security Council's recent uses of the Vatican for destabilization games against Poland, Hungary and other Eastern European nations.

But last week, Pope Paul "promoted" Bennelli to the position of Cardinal along with four others. While the *New York Times* hopes he is now "in line to become Pope," Bennelli in fact appears to have been promoted right out of immediate influence on Vatican foreign policy. He must report for parish duties as Archbishop of Florence, leaving the secretariat of state in the hands of Casaroli.

Coinciding with Bennelli's appointment to the College of Cardinals, moreover, was that of Monsignor Frankisek Tomasek of Czechoslovakia, who had been notified of his elevation much earlier, according to Italian press reports, although the announcement was made only this week. "The fact that Paul VI deemed to keep this name secret until now," wrote the Turin newspaper *La Stampa* June 3, "is interpreted as... a sign of good will toward the East on the eve of the Belgrade conference." Tomasek accepted his elevation "in the name of the state and church" of Czechoslovakia.

Any interpretation of the appointment other than as a sign of Vatican-Communist rapprochement was put to rest this week, when the Pope granted his first audience ever to a European communist leader. Janos Kadar, First Secretary of the Hungarian party, met on June 8 with Paul VI — and Monsignor Agostino Casaroli — for discussions of "Vatican foreign policy and the situation of the Church in Hungary."

Italy's newspaper of record, *Corriere della Sera*, reports that "Kadar found a new climate, a new style in the conduct of the discussions... Bennelli's exit from the secretariat makes Cardinal Villot (Casaroli's immediate superior — ed.) alone the head of the executive..."

The newspaper summarized: "The Casaroli line has won! Normalization of Church-State relations is the work of Casaroli."

Admittedly, the Bennelli faction is hard at work to create conditions under which an open split with the Vatican peace effort can be effected on terms favorable to themselves. On June 6, the 80-year old arch-reactionary French Bishop Marcel Lefebvre was invited to Rome by Italy's "black nobility," so-called because of their links to the Mussolini regime and its sequels in the postwar neofascist movement. Before a gathering of these aristocratic financial-landlords, Lefebvre proceeded to incant the Mass in Latin. Since the 1965 end of Vatican II, the Mass has been directed to be delivered in the vernacular.

As the Lefebvre resurrection reflects, Bennelli's fake "traditionalists" have for years conducted their pro-NATO political operations and their factional maneuvers against Montini-Casaroli by covert means — "dirty tricks." Rather than directly address the actual issues, they have preferred to provoke factional brawls around such things as the new liturgy — the mass in Latin being a principal bone of contention for Vatican II opponents. Since 1965, "underground" priests have continued to recite their Masses in Latin. Lefebvre's provocative appearance in Rome for this purpose bears the earmarks of a Bennelli group directive to bring the renegades out into the open for pro-NATO, pro-Carter factionalization.

Not Lefebvre himself, but the Bennelli group's formation of a global fraction of "schismites" around the use of the dead language and related liturgical problems could develop into a threat to the Vatican's new commitment to peace and development.

"There will perhaps be a split between the traditionalists and the progressives," predicted the June 6 *Corriere della Sera*. Pope Paul has remained quiet on the Lefebvre provocation, but as the June 10 edition of the daily *La Repubblica* also comments, "Paul's audience with Hungarian First Secretary Kadar speaks louder than anything else to Lefebvre."

The Elevation of Casaroli

The progress the Vatican has made in opening up relations with the Czech and Hungarian communist leaderships is the culmination of years of Casaroli organizing. In 1967, Monsignor Casaroli himself laid out his strategy for *Corriere della Sera* journalist Alberto Cavallari. Casaroli stated: "This line (opening to the East — ed.) has always been confused with an ideological truce," — a reference to the false, "White Communist" effort on behalf of so-called "Christian-Marxist dialogues." "The Soviet Union has accepted physical co-existence," Casaroli continued, "but has refused ideological co-existence. We are working on this area because certain international conditions have made it possible to initiate a series of negotiations... by the end of the 1950s, certain contacts became possible. The first were with Yugoslavia between 1956 and 1958... Thus, a policy of rapprochement was delineated between states, not between ideologies, and this policy was continued with my trips to Hungary and Czechoslovakia in 1963."

The Casaroli foreign policy effort was continuous, and was prepared during the years of the Cold War.

Pope Paul's commitment to a realistic Vatican-East policy strongly supported Casaroli's initiatives. Five days after Montini's election (June 22, 1963), he announced the re-convening of Vatican II. One of the major aspects of Council II's agenda was the emphasis on the Vatican's new role as a peace initiator. Pope Paul opened the fourth — and final — session of the council by motivating the discussion of the "The Church in the World Today."

The pontiff stated: "Mankind was destined to reform the world... the Church must 'historicize' itself — insert itself into history, in order to promote the renewal of the world for which it exists." Subsequently Paul established a new Secretariat for Non-Believers in the spring of 1965 under Cardinal Koenig of Vienna, to try to find "a basis for accomodation (stronger than the code-words

'pragmatic' and 'dialogue' which were used by Paul's predecessor, John XXIII — ed.) with the communists, atheists, and other non-believers."

During the open debate sessions of Council II, the major discussion centered on the documents relating to the Church's policy towards the "non-believers" and the issue of disarmament. During the Council Pope Paul himself left twice, once to address the United Nations, and then a trip to India to appeal to countries of the world to work for peace. The Secretary of State at that time, Bishop Samore, characterized Paul VI's peace policy as unprecedented. Samore stated, in part: "...The Pope's appeal in Bombay continued the quest for a different view of disarmament, as a total and international process, and as a way of getting past the logic of deterrence..."

'Strategy Of Tension' Imported To France

FRANCE

The "strategy of tension" which the Rockefeller puppet-Carter regime used in Italy has now been imported to France. If it succeeds, it will complete the process of French President Giscard's subjugation of France to the economic policy of New York banks, and to U.S. Secretary Cyrus Vance's global deployment for thermonuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union.

The "strategy of tension" is the Carter-Rockefeller policy of controlled terrorism and counter-terrorism by "left" and "right" countergangs operating under identical police agency auspices. Its aim is to destabilize significant forces in opposition to Rockefeller-Carter policy.

The immediate target of the terrorists in France is the CGT, the giant, Communist Party-linked trade union confederation which is the main obstacle to Giscard government deindustrialization programs and Giscard-Vance foreign policy collaboration.

On Saturday, June 4, strikers picketing at a plant in Rheims outside Paris, all CGT organizers, were showered with gunfire by members of the so-called CFT, a fascist "company union" outfit. One worker was killed and two others critically wounded.

Then, today, a gaggle of howling "left ecology freaks" gathered before a plant of the EDF electricity company, stoning the gates and buildings. EDF is engaged in an extensive nuclear power plant expansion program, at odds with Carter-Giscard zero growth plans.

Terrorist Goal: Slave-Labor

This terrorism unleashed against both labor and industry was carefully pre-planned in Paris and Washington. For its part in the private intelligence work, the New York Times treated its readers ten days ago to a completely unexplained news scoop: "Right Wing Violence May Erupt in France, Some Fear."

In Paris several weeks ago, the Giscard government think-tank, "Perspective and Realité," unveiled

government deindustrialization plans specifying the closing down of large industrial firms in large cities like Paris, to permit decentralization of the related production capacities into smaller units spread across the countryside. The feudal-fascist (Vichyite) plan, contrived under the direction of former French Finance Minister Fourcade, thus called for a dismantling of those heavy-industry urban sectors which are the stronghold of the CGT confederation, as well as the sites of heavy immigrant-labor concentration — the immigrants to be simply shipped home.

The only qualification to Fourcade's small slave-labor unit scheme is that some large factory units are to be maintained for conversion to military production, whose export volume could provide the foreign exchange to meet New York bank schedules for French debt repayment. European Labor Party organizers were told by Paris workers that such a conversion plan was on the books for their own plant, the giant Renault auto complex, the strongest of CGT bases.

Who fired on CGT workers in Rheims is no secret. The so-called CFT was the goon-organization named in the *New York Times'* far-sighted prediction of anti-working class violence ten days ago. Another paramilitary intelligence gang involved, the SAC, a secret fascist group, is known to have been taken over by the old Algerian "blackfoot" Secret Army Organization (OAS), itself run by Rockefeller private intelligence networks with an Interpol and Israeli intelligence interface.

And the 'Left'

The "left-wing" so-called Ecology Movement now attacking French nuclear power development is an even more hastily contrived merger of several pre-existing Rockefeller network ganglets, including "Trotskyist" and "Maoist" crazies whose color was changed from red to green at the Vincennes University sociology department in Paris — an intelligence agency behavior-modification center. Vincennes set up as a purportedly working-class institution, has been increasingly exposed as the French equivalent of the notorious Trento University in Italy, whose sociology department spawned such internationally known killer-groupings as